

included INTER-ALIA the Thondi-Madurai-Theni-Kumbam-Kottaya,-Cochin Road covering incidentally a small segment of the road in question from Theni to Kumuli via Kumbam. Nevertheless, the declaration of new National Highways can be considered only after the 8th Five Year Plan is finalised subject to the overall availability of resources, criteria for declaring new National Highways, *inter-se* priority of proposals etc. Incidentally, the State Government of Tamil Nadu has assigned a lower priority to this road in the list of proposals furnished by them.

[Translation]

Construction of Bypass on National Highway at Shahjahanpur

5175. SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a bypass at Shahjahanpur on Delhi-Lucknow National Highway via Shahjahanpur (Uttar Pradesh);

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting the construction work of the bypass when the land has already been acquired; and

(c) the time by which the work on this bypass is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Subject to availability of funds, construction of the bypass would be taken up after complete land required for the bypass is in possession. As reported by the State Govt., part of land is yet to be acquired.

(c) It is too early to indicate the date of start.

[English]

Test Range for Rockets at Chandipur

5176. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched some modern rockets from Chandipur in Balasore district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the rockets tested recently;

(c) whether Chandipur is likely to be treated as a test range of such rockets; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of indigenously developed systems like surface-to-surface rocket (PINAKA), anti-tank missile (NAG), short range surface-to-air missile (TRISHUL), medium range surface-to-air missile (AKASH) and the technology demonstrator system (AGNI) have been launched from Chandipur.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Facilities established at Chandipur will be mainly used for flight testing of short and medium range rockets, missiles and similar systems.

[Translation]

Long Term Loans to Uttar Pradesh

5177. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government